

REMARKS

Drawings

In the Office Action, the Examiner has suggested that the relieved surfaces or slotted walls and refuse material must be shown or the feature canceled from the claims. Applicant notes that the relieved surfaces or slotted walls are adequately represented by the teeth of the longitudinal slot. New Fig. 4 has been added to show the refuse material. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objections to the drawings.

Claims

Claims 1, 3-6 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,707,963 to Governale. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Governale. Finally, claims 7-10, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Governale in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,312,215 to Anquetin. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Governale differs from the present invention since it fails to include a flange that is to be positioned on an outer surface of the muntin bar or a plug body that provides a press fit against a surface of the inner wall of the muntin bar. Specifically, the detent or locking teeth 35 on the spring arms 34 of the clip element 26 of Governale are completely recessed within the muntin bar and do not engage the muntin bar's outer surface. See Governale Fig. 4. Furthermore, while the anchor element 40 is pressed into engagement with the clip element 26, it does not engage the inner wall of the muntin bar. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and submits that all claims are now properly allowable over the prior art.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in proper form for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,



Mark D. Schneider
Registration No. 43,906
Gifford, Krass, Groh, Sprinkle,
Anderson & Citkowski, P.C.
280 N. Old Woodward, Suite 400
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 647-6000

MDS/gs

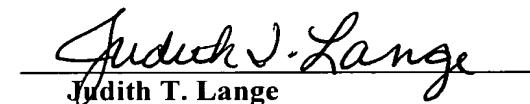
GS-W:\Word Processing\mds\KWO17702-amd.doc

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER EV12389394045

DATE OF DEPOSIT September 10, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper or fee (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



Judith T. Lange
Judith T. Lange

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

New claims 14-19 have been added.